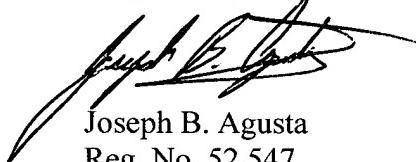


Remarks

This preliminary amendment is being filed in the present application which is a continuation of application Serial Number 10/114,652 filed on April 1, 2002 which is a continuation of application Serial Number 09/238,446 filed on January 28, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,366,999.

Claims 1-5, 10-48, and 53-55 have been cancelled without prejudice. New claims 56-73 have been added. Claims 6-9, 49-52 and 56-73 are presently pending.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph B. Agusta  
Reg. No. 52,547  
5015 Southpark Drive, Suite 230  
Durham, NC 27713  
(919) 806-1600